Programmes of Madras Doordarshan on Delhi Doordarshan

7112. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHEE TINDIVANAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to telecast Madras Doordarshan Channel II programmes on the Delhi Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase Tamil language and cultural programmes on the Delhi Doordarshan; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Kudremukh Iron ore Project

7113. SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure on the Kudremukh Iron Ore Project;

(b) whether any agreement singned between Iran and India regarding Kudremukh project is still valid;

(c) whether the Iranian Government failed to fulfil the conditions of agreement by declining to give part of the aid or loan and by declining to buy the iorn ore;

(d) whether the dispute has been settled to the satisfaction of both the countries; and

(e) the estimated loss to the Union Government on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) A total expenditure of Rs. 490.80 crores has been incurred on the mining and benefaction facilities of Kudremukh Iron Ore Project.

(b) The original agreements, i.e., Financial Agreement and Sale & Puchase Contract concluded in November, 1975 with Iran for implementing the Kudremukh Iron Ore Project remain valid subject to modifications in terms of the Memorandum of Understanding concluded between Governments of India and Iran in August, 1989 settling the outstanding disputes arising from the agreements.

(c) Against the credit of US $ 630 million under the financial agreement of November, 1975, Iran disbursed US $ 255.175 million. Due to the developments in that country, sale of Kudremukh concentrate as per the scale originally envisaged in the agreement of November, 1975 did not take place.

Government of India completed the project by investing its own funds to the tune of Rs. 281.02 croes. It also become necessary to diversify and set up a Pellet Plant at Mangalore at a cost of Rs. 116.65 crores.

(d) & (e). The terms of settlement between the Governments of India and Iran were considered satisfactory in the wider context of maintenance of economic and political relations between the two countries.

Import of foreign Films by Nfdc.

7114. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN